

BENEFITS AND RISKS OF ADVANCED BIOTECHNOLOGY APPLICATIONS

BENEFITS



Misdiagnoses plummet and healthcare outcomes improve.

Rapid, more effective medical treatments.

Reduce delays and rejections of organ transplants and repairs.

Major reduction in inherited genetic diseases.

Novel treatments for neurological disorders. Enhanced cognition and expanded perception.

Improved speed and reliability in designing and making novel materials, medicines.

Ready production of new and novel molecules, materials and treatments.

Make barren or depleted lands productive. Mitigate human-induced and natural threats to the environment.

Practically unlimited capacity for long-term data storage.

Increased variety of cheaper, more nutritious foods created with lower environmental impact.

APPLICATION

DIGITAL HEALTH / PERSONALIZED MEDICINE

Tailored medical treatments using AI to combine data from genetic sequencing, diagnostics, and biomonitoring.

ON DEMAND MEDICINE PRODUCTION

Cell- and gene-based therapies, combined with improvements in drug design and production, for faster disease response.

BIOPRINTING AND XENOTRANSPLANTATION

Additive manufacturing to "print" biological parts for medical testing or tissue replacement, grow human-compatible organs in animals for transplantation.

REPRODUCTIVE ENGINEERING

Using genomic technologies to select and modify human embryos for broad range of traits and abilities.

COMPUTER-HUMAN INTERFACES

Machine augmentation of human cognitive processes.

BIO-MANUFACTURING

Bio-design and production of enhanced or highly specified materials, medicines and foods.

SYNTHETIC ORGANISMS

Genetically modified organisms and biological processes create new materials and medicines.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION

Large-scale ecological intervention, through biotechnology, reforestation, or ocean engineering creates, manipulates, or rescues damaged environments.

DNA-BASED DATA STORAGE

DNA used to encode and store data.

TRANSFORMED AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PRODUCTION

Automated precision production processes and integrated crop-livestock systems use genetically altered organisms.



RISKS

Access disparities due to costs or location. Personal health data misuse or manipulation.

Disputes over R&D prioritization in developed vs. developing countries.

Access disparities due to the high up-front costs.

Ethical and social divides over applications. Unequal access.

Tensions between augmented and non-augmented individuals. New cyber/bio vulnerabilities.

Increased potential for misuse and workforce restructuring.

Potential for weapons applications or accidental misuse. Unknown environmental impacts.

Unintended, potentially global environmental or public health consequences.

Increased potential for long-term social monitoring.

Reduced biodiversity, social tensions over genetic modification, workforce and supply chain disruptions.